

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<u>Applicant:</u>	Mitsuhiro KURANO	<u>Examiner:</u>	(To be assigned)
<u>Ser. No.:</u>	10/597953	<u>Art Group:</u>	3749
<u>Title:</u>	DIRECT HEATING TUBE AND METHOD OF HEATING FLUID USING SAME		
<u>Filed:</u>	14 August 2006	<u>Date:</u>	28 December 2006

FOURTH PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION – begin on page 2.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS – None.

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS – None.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS – begin on page 3.